

Message

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Sent: 6/15/2016 9:15:53 PM
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Subject: Land Team News Roundup - 6/15/16

Here are items for today. Many news articles, but I only put a few up front as top stories – dealing with **glyphosate** and **lead**.

Other items are provided below that, which may be of interest to specific folks.

TOP STORIES

GLYPHOSATE

- [House Panel Investigating Possible EPA Staff Split On Glyphosate Risk](#)
The House panel investigating EPA's oversight of glyphosate is seeking to determine whether agency scientists are split over whether the nation's most commonly-used herbicide is likely to cause human cancers, potentially complicating the agency's ongoing cancer analysis of the substance, according to a source with the panel.
- [Advocates Reiterate Calls For Glyphosate Ban, Faulting EPA Risk Reviews](#)
Health advocacy groups are reiterating calls for EPA to ban the world's most commonly-used herbicide glyphosate, arguing heavy use of the substance on genetically-modified (GM) crops is increasing rates of disease such as cancer, and that the agency's assessments fail to adequately account for health risks from the substance.
- [Glyphosate critics look to woo lawmakers](#)
Critics of the herbicide glyphosate, who are convinced it causes human health ailments, made the rounds on Capitol Hill yesterday as debate continues over the common farm chemical.

LEAD

- [In some zip codes, 1 in 7 children suffer from dangerously high blood lead levels.](#)
A [6-year study](#) examining more than 5 million blood samples offers a detailed picture of how many children in the U.S. have elevated blood lead levels. In some zip codes, it's as many as 14 percent of children under age 6.

OTHER NEWS

TSCA REFORM

- [States Can Regulate Chemicals Under TSCA Preemption Provisions](#)
States needing to regulate chemicals can do so despite federal preemption provisions in the TSCA overhaul legislation. Several state officials, however, remain disappointed in the preemption language of the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 2576).
- [Will New Chemical Regulations Keep Toxics off Our Plates?](#)

Congress has agreed to revise the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Will it be enough to make our food and water safer?

- **Editorial/Opinion:** [New chemical regulation law is long overdue](#) [Historic Chemical Regulation Law Sets the Stage for a Safer Future](#)

BISPHENOL-A

- [Hyperactivity in children linked to plastic additive, BPA](#)

U.S. Children with higher levels of BPA in their bodies were more likely to have Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), according to a [study](#). The study of 460 children across the U.S. aged 8-15 years old found that 11 percent of those with BPA levels higher than the median level had ADHD. In contrast, 3 percent of those children with BPA levels below the median had ADHD.

FRACKING

- [EPA Fracking Report Needs Qualifiers, Scientists Say](#)

A much debated summary on the risks posed by hydraulic fracturing to drinking water is kicked around again in discussing recommendations to improve an EPA report. The draft report says it found no “widespread, systemic impacts” on drinking water from fracking. The agency's SAB appears likely to recommend the addition of explanatory quantification to help justify the statement.

- [SAB Weighs Advising EPA To Better Quantify Fracking Study Conclusion](#)

EPA's full Science Advisory Board (SAB) is weighing how the agency could better quantify its controversial draft study that finds no widespread, systemic adverse impacts to drinking water from hydraulic fracturing, though the SAB is for now opting against the rare step of sending the report back to an SAB panel for further review.

TCE, NMP, METHYLENE CHLORIDE

- [Small Businesses Weigh in on EPA Rules for Three Solvents](#)

The Environmental Protection Agency has set up two small-business panels to provide their perspectives on the effects of two rules the agency is considering that would restrict or ban specific uses of three solvents, EPA said on a website updated yesterday.

COAL ASH

- [Duke Energy Hit With Another Coal Ash Lawsuit](#)

Conservation groups claim that Duke Energy is illegally discharging toxic metals and other pollutants into groundwater and surface water at its Mayo coal-fired power plant in Roxboro, N.C. According to a lawsuit filed, the contamination is coming from 6.9 million tons of coal ash stored in an unlined, leaking pit at the facility.

- [Georgia Power to spend \\$2B closing 29 waste ponds](#)

Over the next three years, Georgia Power will close dozens of coal ash ponds, an act that will cost between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion.

INTERNATIONAL

- [Canada Proposes Coal Tars Toxic Designation](#)

Canada is proposing designating six coal tars as toxic substances and offering measures to control their releases into the environment, and also proposed to conclude that three petrolatum and wax substances are not toxic.

- [EU Updates Chemical Classification Law](#)

The European Commission updated the EU's regulation on the classification, labeling and packaging of substances and mixtures. Several technical modifications had been made, including “a clarification of classification criteria for some hazard classes and a new test method for oxidising solids,” and “a rationalization of the list of precautionary statements.”

- [Pesticide Makers Warn of EU Grain Cuts From Tougher Health Rules](#)

European Union cereal production risks being cut by stricter EU rules on hormone-damaging chemicals, the pesticides industry warned. An EU plan to outline more detailed criteria for determining whether pesticides contain so-called endocrine disruptors could force key farm chemicals off the market, according to the European Crop Protection Association.

- [European Commission to table proposals on phasing out hormone disruptors.](#)

The European Commission will come forward with long-awaited rules to help identify hormone-disrupting properties in pesticides and other chemicals, and eventually phase them out.

- European Commission Publishes Endocrine Disruptors Criteria

The European Commission today proposed that a World Health Organization standard be used as the basis for identification of endocrine disrupting substances under EU pesticides and biocides laws, a long-awaited announcement that pleased neither chemical companies nor environmental advocates.

- Ban glyphosate-based pesticides, urges CAP

Ban the sale of glyphosate-based weedkillers as it is hazardous to humans, wildlife and the environment, the Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP) urged. CAP President SM Mohamed Idris said the country's food security might be threatened, as nearly 200 herbicide products in Malaysia contain glyphosate.